From: pamela winters
To: City Council
Subject: BDS Proposal
Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:31:02 PM

Greetings to the Cambridge City Council!

I am writing to you in objection to the resolution boycotting HP for business done in Israel, sponsored by BDS, whose leaders are dedicated to Israel's destruction.
As a Cambridge resident since 1974, I love this city and would hate to have it labeled an anti-Semitic city. I was proud of the fact we were the first city to acknowledge gay marriage;
we welcome immigrants, etc.
Israel's establishment of a Palestinian site is a goal that Israel shares. I have to ask you: "Why Israel"? There are so many other countries that do horrible things….China, Pakistan, etc….How
would we feel if Mexico were lobbing bombs at Texas? Israel has a right to defend itself against people who strap bombs to themselves to blow up innocent civilians. Since 2000, 171 suicide attacks,
805 Israels died and 964 were injured (Wikipedia). In 2013, 3 teenagers were kidnapped and killed.
If you read about the history is Israel, it was given them them in 1948 by the British. It was a desert occupied by Arabs, Jews, and others. It was not a government and Israel had a choice to throw out
people who were not Jews; they chose not to, and now there are many Palestinians living in Israel in harmony with Jews. Hamas, on the other hand, a terrorist organization, rules Palestine.

I served on the Planning Board for the city for 15 yrs and worked with Community Development before then on zoning issues.
Leaders such as Obama, John Kerry, Joe Kennedy, Duval Patrick all reject BDS. As Tom Friedman from the NYTimes says: "Criticizing Israel is not anti-Semitic, but singling out Israel for
opprobrium and international sanctions out of all proportion to any other party in the Middle East is anti-Semitic, and not saying so is dishonest.

I am not a Jew, in fact I'm an Irish citizen (dual citizenship), but feel strongly about this issue. Keep in mind that Israel is the only Democratic state in the Middle East. Ask yourselves.."Why Israel?"
and maybe read a book on Israel in the past 70 yrs. to see its history. Please don't label my city that I love as anti-Semitic.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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